AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please replace Claims 1, 10 and 17 as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended): A method for obtaining a travel time, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a remote location a search category from a communication device;

identifying a plurality of locations in the search category which are within a search area, wherein the search area is determined based upon potential pathways from an origin, and based upon characteristics of each of the potential pathways, including but not limited to speed limit, number of turns, and potential traffic congestion;

computing a first travel time from the origin to a first location in the plurality of locations;

storing the first travel time and respective first location; and

transmitting the first location and the first travel time from the remote location to the communication device;

wherein the communication device is one of a telephone and a personal digital assistant.

2. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

computing a second travel time from the origin to a second location in the plurality of locations; and,

sorting the first travel time and second travel time by ascending order.

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3.   (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein the search category is restaurants and the first location is a first restaurant.

4.   (Original):   The method of claim 1, wherein the search category is gas stations and the first location is a gas station.

5.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of expanding the search area.

6.   (Original):   The method of claim 1, further comprising the step of:

determining whether a preselected number of locations have respective travel times computed.

7.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 1, further comprising the steps of:

estimating the first travel time by dividing a distance from the origin to the first location by a maximum speed; and,

determining whether the estimated first time is less than a predetermined limit.

8.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 1, wherein the identifying step includes searching a database for a plurality of locations within a selected geographical area.

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9.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 1, wherein the communication device is a cellular telephone.

10.   (Currently Amended):   A method for obtaining a travel time, comprising the steps of:

receiving at a remote location a search category from a communication device;

identifying a plurality of locations in the search category which are within a search area, wherein the search area is determined based upon potential pathways from an origin, and based upon characteristics of each of the potential pathways, including but not limited to speed limit, number of turns, and potential traffic congestion;

determining whether the search area should be expanded based upon the plurality of locations;

estimating a first travel time by dividing the distance from ~~an~~ the origin to a first location by a maximum speed;

determining whether the estimated first travel time is less than a predetermined limit;

computing the first travel time from the origin to the first location in the plurality of locations;

storing the first travel time and respective first location;

computing a second travel time from the origin to a second location in the plurality of locations;

sorting the first travel time with the second travel time based upon ascending values;

compiling a list from the sorted first travel time and second travel time, the list including travel time and location address; and

transmitting the list from the remote location to the communication device;

wherein the communication device is one of a telephone and a personal digital assistant.

11.   (Canceled)

12.   (Canceled)

13.   (Canceled)

14.   (Canceled)

15.   (Canceled)

16.   (Canceled)

17.   (Currently Amended):   A method for obtaining a list of targets, comprising the steps

of:

receiving a request for a search category from a communication device;

identifying a search area, wherein the search area is determined based upon potential

pathways from an origin, and based upon characteristics of each of the potential pathways, including

but not limited to speed limit, number of turns, and potential traffic congestion;

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identifying a plurality of targets in the search category which are within the search area;

computing a travel time for at least one of the plurality of targets from ~~an~~ <u>the</u> origin to the target;

sorting each of the plurality of targets for which a travel time has been computed by the respective travel time;

compiling a list of the sorted plurality of targets; and

displaying the list to a user via the communication device;

wherein the communication device is one of a telephone and a personal digital assistant.

18.   (Canceled)

19.   (Canceled)

20.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 17, wherein the search category is restaurants.

21.   (Previously Presented):   The method of claim 17, wherein the search category is gas stations.

22. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of modifying the search area.

23. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 17, further comprising the step of:

estimating whether a travel time is less than a predetermined limit by dividing a distance from the origin to the target by a maximum speed.

24. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 17, wherein the identifying step includes searching a database for a plurality of targets within the search area.

25. (Previously Presented): The method of claim 17, wherein the communication device is a cellular telephone.

EXAMINER INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Applicants would like to thank Primary Patent Examiner Thu V. Nguyen for taking the time to participate in a telephonic interview with Applicants' undersigned representative on August 10, 2004. During the interview, Kaplan, U.S. Patent No. 6,401,034 (hereafter, "*Kaplan*") was discussed. Additionally, Applicants' representative proposed amendments to claims 6 and 8 to incorporate into those claims all the limitations of independent claim 1. Further, Applicants' representative explained why Liming, U.S. Patent No. 2002/0055924 (hereafter, "*Liming*"), *Kaplan*, Sato, U.S. Patent No. 5,906,654 (hereafter, "*Sato*"), Myr, U.S. Patent No. 6,480,783 (hereafter, "*Myr*"), and Takanabe, U.S. Patent No. 5,359,527 (hereafter, "*Takanabe*"), alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest identifying a plurality of locations in the search category in a search area that is determined based upon potential pathways, nor do they teach or suggest computing the travel time from an origin to a first location.

Primary Examiner Nguyen declined to allow claims 1, 6, or 8 in their current state, and also declined to allow claims 6 and 8 if amended as proposed.

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